

THE TIMES DAILY MAGAZINE PAGE

Ironing Day Is Not All Smoothness

However, In Our Estimation It Is Better Than Wash Day, for Olfactory Reasons If for No Other. What the Ironing Board Is Good For, and the Uses of Irons in General. Why a Woman Never Needs a Hammer.

We celebrate Ironing Day. That is, Tuesday, the day after wash day, at which time every respectable housekeeper pursues the elusive wrinkle.

There are so many delightful avenues through which to approach with a tribute to ironing day that one is at loss as to how to begin. Of course, we will admit that ironing day is not all smoothness; that sometimes, just as the honeymoon will pass, the starch will stick, the irons burn the clothes, or a peculiar and stubborn clamminess will manifest itself on the part of the ironers themselves.

We mean one of those nice cold days, when the clothes are just right, and it is a pleasure to stand over the ironing board and the gas burns steadily.

Then, indeed, does ironing far surpass washing as a pastime. For first, last, and always, let it be remembered that ironing rarely if ever is heard more than a block away. Whereas, the fact that one is doing the family wash is communicable even to the mythical policeman on his solitary beat, three blocks away.

Few men know how active the irons in their own homes can be. There are many a man who thinks he is a good husband, when as a matter of fact his wife merely has excellent irons.

They are an ever present help in time of trouble. They are used for mauling, in preserving the family plate, for water bags, hammers, and weights. They are ideal for cracking nuts, and make excellent playthings for the children.

When not in use irons sit modestly in some dark corner, patient and unobtrusive. They are hard to hurt, but when they do resent a familiarity, the one at fault will remember it for a long time.

The ironing board is the corollary to the iron, or vice versa. They are the Damon and Pythias of the kitchen. But so different! Whereas the iron is always quite nude, so to speak, the modest ironing board is always shielded from the public gaze by a modest cloak of flannel and linen. Come to think of it, this would sound wonderful in vase form, but it's too late now. We have started in prose. Funny thing, though, how easy it is to say elaborate and unconventional things in verse form. Words and phrases that anyone would excuse in rhyme look positively bold in plain prose.

Now if we were writing this in verse, we could say very cleverly something like this: Deceitful? The sturdy irons so frank and fat. Now, they are always bare. The ironing board is always dressed—Pray, what's the trouble there?

But if we should come right out in prose and insinuate that the ironing board was ashamed of well we can't even begin to say in prose! But you'll have to admit that the poetry is neat.

Stories of Stories

THE PYTHON.

By Jerome K. Jerome.

He was a burly Englishman who had lived for years in India. She was a fragile and timid English girl who had never traveled far afield. If she had not loved him so devotedly she would never have consented to marry him and to leave her peaceful Devon home for the hardships and perils of the Orient.

Her first half year in their bungalow in the hill country of India was a period of stark terror. The swarthy natives, with their gleaming teeth and rolling eyes, frightened her. So did all the strange new sights which surrounded her. But chiefly—and to the depths of her gentle soul—she feared the poisonous snakes that infest the hill country. Her terror of snakes was almost a mania. It was even stronger than her homesickness for the dear land she had left.

Her husband loved her devotedly. But he did not understand women. And he was even more sympathetic than her feminine nerves. He laughed aloud at his little wife's fears and he coarsely made fun of her.

He was a sportsman and would never have dreamed of trying to cure a dog of gun shyness by beating the scared brute. Yet he sought to cure his wife's terror of snakes in a far more idiotic way. He decided, in his own mind, that she needed a good shock to give her a lesson in courage. And because he was a fool he at once put a crazy plan into effect.

Returning home from a day's ride late one afternoon, he saw a gigantic python hanging from a tree limb. A single shot from his rifle shattered the reptile's head. He struck the dead snake's head with his saddlebow, its head and tail dragging on the ground behind him, and he rode home through the twilight.

He saw a chance to try his new idea of curing his wife's fright. He laid the dead python on the floor of his study and then dressed for dinner. That evening as he and his wife sat in their living room he asked her if she would mind going into his study for a pipe he had left on the desk there.

Pathetically glad to be of service to her, she went to obey the request. So sweet and pretty and loving did she look as she sped on the errand that his heart almost misgave him. Then he chuckled again. He knew she would see the serpent on the floor and would be frightened. But she would quickly notice that the python was dead, and she would never again be afraid of snakes. (That is the kind of fool he was.)

She heard her husband's grunting. The man sat still grinning. This shock would certainly cure her of her cauleless terror. Presently her screams died into a stricken silence. The man grew mildly worried. Perhaps she had been silly enough to faint. He got up and went into the study.

There lay the dead python, where he had left it. There, too, lay his wife. Around her slender body was coiled another python—the real one of the first. After the manner of snakes, this python had traced its dead mate to the study through the open veranda window and had vengefully attacked the young wife as soon as she had set foot in the room. While her husband had sat listening amusedly to her screams, the snake had killed her.

When the servants burst into the study they found the man standing there—quite inane—tearing the murderous python to pieces with his bare hands.

(Copyright, 1916.)

Why Black Clothes Are Hot

Why black clothing, particularly the black should be better in summer than that of a lighter hue, is a question often asked. A being lighted by white light is white because it reflects to the eye almost the whole of the light that falls upon it. On the contrary, black absorbs the light. As all light is partly heat, the black garment naturally becomes warmer and the heat is communicated to the body.

Up to the Doctor.

"Well, here I am," announced the fashionable physician in the breezy way. "And now, what do you think is the matter with you?" "Doctor, I hardly know," answered the fashionable patient. "What is new?"

Times Pattern Service

THIS waist with surplice closing just sparkles with smartness—in the combination effect. Simple but interesting style is shown by rolling the fronts their full length and adding covered buttons where the collar joins. A full-length sleeve is finished with a wide roll cuff of the collar material. Novelty plaid or striped voile, Japanese silk, crepe, satin, and a variety of tub fabrics will give satisfaction in developing. For fashion and economy you should use the pattern.

Two Women Carry on a Craft In a Quiet Washington Home

The Misses Mary and Emily Healey, Whose Gold Decorated China Is Known Wherever Tiffany's Can Reach, Have Perfected Their Art At Home.

Their Business Has Had Twenty-seven Years of Success—Now Miss Emily Healey, the Chemist of the Family, Is Experimenting With Uranium.

In a quiet Washington street is a freshly painted yellow brick house. One of a row of old-fashioned homes. Within is the quiet industry of heavy rugs and velvet hangings. Excellent pieces of mahogany—little tables and tabourets—support tapestried cases that have a hint of mystery and concealed treasure. Occasionally, from a mantel or a bookcase, comes the gleam of dull gold.

At last, in comes the key to the mysterious cases—Miss Emily Healey, who opens them and sets free a multitude of rainbow colors with the ever-recurring motif of even, deep gold. On she goes, from bookcase to closet, showing vases and plates and cups of every conceivable size of plain gold or gold lined with opal, dull pearl, and flame. The house, it may be seen, is not an ordinary one at all, for somewhere, in regions not visible to the casual caller, is carried on a craft whose fame is nationwide, the successful application of gold to china. After the boxes and closets have given up their testimony, Miss Healey, the chemist of the firm of Mary and Emily Healey, artists.

We started back in 1889 as amateurs, she began, her brown eyes gleaming with joy at the achievement.

RECIPES

Fricasseed Chicken. This is another way of cooking chicken popular in the North as well as in the South. Divide the chickens into joints and wash them. Place the pieces in a pot, adding an occasional onion slice, a bit of salt pork and a little parsley. Do not add water, but cover the pot closely and set on a cool place to the boiling point, then simmer gently till the meat is tender. A little water may be added if necessary. If an old fowl is selected this will require some time, but only by slow cooking is a perfect fricasse obtained. When tender season to taste with salt, pepper and paprika, and remove from the gravy. Skim the latter, wash and thicken with a tablespoon of butter rubbed smooth with one of flour. Add half a cup of milk, which has been added a well-beaten egg.

Fricasseed chicken is delightful served with hot baking-powder biscuits, which are split and buttered, then arranged on a platter with the chicken and gravy placed on top.

Brussels Sprouts and Celery. Remove wilted leaves from one quart of sprouts, lay in cold water fifteen minutes, drain, cook in boiling salted water twenty minutes or until tender; drain again. Then cut one and one-half cups of celery washed and cut in small pieces, cook in water (salted) a few minutes. Melt a saucer of one tablespoon of butter cooked with one tablespoon of flour and one and one-half cups of hot milk; add drained sprouts and celery and serve.

Very Considerate. Smith—When you came home and found a burglar in your house what did you do? Jones (who is English)—What did I do? Why, nothing, of course, I didn't know the 'bally rotter.

THE FIRM OF M. & E. HEALEY

Few of those who own gold china bearing the stamp of M. & E. Healey realize that the "firm" consists of two gentle, gray-haired women who carry on their craft in a quiet house in Washington. Here are some of the facts in the history of their work: They began in 1889, with the idea of perfecting a gold that could be spread over large surfaces, and selling this gold to factories. They—still as amateurs—won two first prizes in gold and decoration at the Columbian Exposition, Chicago. Examples of their gold-decorated china were placed in the arcade of the United States exhibit, Paris Exposition. They secured Tiffany's as their agent several years after beginning the work. A number of European museums have purchased examples as one of the most perfect forms of gold decoration yet evolved.

At that time there was no satisfactory method of spreading gold over large surfaces, such as china plates. The first thing we set ourselves to do was to perfect such a gold—and we did.

Our original idea was to manufacture the gold to sell to factories, but we started this with a wave toward several of the opened boxes—"and here we are," she finished, triumphantly. "A couple of years after we began the work, we secured Tiffany's as our New York agents, since then we have sent this china all over America. At the World's Columbian Exposition, while we were still amateurs, mind you, we won two first prizes, in gold and in decoration, not in the woman's building alone, but in competition with decorators of the world.

Later, at the Paris Exposition, examples of our decorated china were put in the arcade of the United States exhibit building holding the United States exhibit.

You can see, the advantage of our method is not only that the gold is spread evenly over china so that it looks like solid metal, but so applied that it has the tooled appearance of wrought metal.

It is lasting, too. Here is a vase that we decorated fifteen years ago. Indeed, our principal trouble is to find perfect China at the start.

We have always wanted our china to be as simple as possible, following classic and Egyptian designs. The American potteries simply will not make what we want, and we have to send abroad for most of it. We are most

pleased with the china we are now receiving from Copenhagen. They only sold it to us after they were convinced that our industry did not compete with anything carried on in their country.

Of late I have been experimenting with uranium and gold—I am the chemist of the family, as you may see by my hands. It had been known for some time that uranium has color properties, but the wide range of colors possible never was dreamed.

Miss Healey went to one of the big cases by a window, where a diminutive dog was sunning himself blissfully, and disclosed rows of cups. "See here—and here," she went on, "dull opal and pearl and platinum tinged with color and flame. Why, there's no end to them! Some people think that much of the effect depends upon reflection, because the cups are corrugated, but you can see it's a true color by looking at the cup sideways.

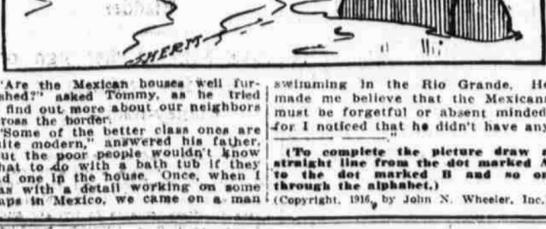
And we do it all right here," she added proudly. "We have these parlors down here and bedrooms upstairs. All the rest of the house is taken over by the studios, and up there, where you see the pipe coming through the roof, is my own laboratory.

The kilns are built into the ground in the back yard. They are of concrete, fireproofed, and so well ventilated that snow melts on the top no sooner than in the remainder of the yard.

You see, we have a business that we can carry on right in the home without breaking up our home life—an ideal occupation for women, don't you think?

The Alphabetical Dots

By CLIFFORD LEON SHERMAN.



"Are the Mexican houses well furnished?" asked Tommy, as he tried to find out more about our neighbors across the border. "Some of the better class ones are quite modern," answered his father, "but the poor people wouldn't know what to do with a bath tub if they had one in the house. Once, when I was with a detail working on some maps in Mexico, we came on a man

swimming in the Rio Grande. He made me believe that the Mexicans must be forgetful or absent minded. For I noticed that he didn't have any

"To complete the picture draw a straight line from the dot marked A to the dot marked B and so on through the alphabet."

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Cottolene

"The Natural Shortening" Fish fried in Cottolene brown beautifully and have a delicious flavor. Just try this pure food product for your own satisfaction. See how much better it is than anything else for frying—and also for shortening. Your grocer will supply Cottolene in large or small pails. Order from him today. "Cottolene makes good cooking better"

How to Shampoo and Dry Your Own Hair So As to Avoid Injuring It

By DR. LEONARD KEENE HIRSHBERG.

ONE of the sources of falling hair is the mischief which sometimes results from rubbing soap directly into the tissues, when they are washed. This should no more be done than should ice be carried to the furnace. To dry the hair with towels of linen, or "rubbing cloths," is equally injurious. Indeed, this abrasion unto the lords of physiology is hardly less serious than drying the hair with heated air. Aligned shampoos, too, are among the abominations handed down from the days when men carried at their sides until their beards grew. Egg shampoos are sticky messes, alkali or "softening" shampoos nibble the life out of the hair, and arid or irritating shampoos of the "dry" type are hospitable invitations to eczemas, itches, and scales.

Atmosphere Best Dryer. The sun, the wind, and the invigorating atmosphere are the best dryers and varnishers of the hair. A plain shampoo in boiled water—hence "aqua pura" free from germ—and castile soap, a shampoo free of alkali, acid, dirt, mites and stickiness, will suffice. Once or twice a month is often enough for those who live in glass houses, homes of light and airy atmosphere. Those, however, who dwell in darkness, in basements, in greasy, odorous steam and heat should shampoo their hair once a week at least.

If typhoid fever or any infectious malady is round about, the hair should be disinfected with neutral carbolic soaps or preferably formalin water. Those who nurse the sick should remember that shampoos are easily spread by the locks. While the nails, skin, nose, throat, and other parts of the body are disinfected, the hair is seldom given more than a lick and a promise.

Rinse Several Times. Washed hair should be rinsed several times in cool, boiled water and then fanned dry near an open, sunshiny window. This treatment keeps the hair vibrant with life. I know a young girl who has her hair in this manner, and her electrified tresses are the envy of the women who do not shampoo their

hair and massage their scalps more than twice a month. It is a mistake to think that there is such a thing as over-washing the hair. Moreover, some people have a habit of generating, if they see dirty Indians with fine suits of hair, they say: "Look at those people! See what fine heads of hair!" Yet they wash only on Christmas and Easter! All of this means nothing, which is proved by men and women who wash and shampoo every day and have luxuriant hair. The point is that you should shampoo your hair as often as it is dirty and needs it, no less and no more. (Copyright, 1916, Newspaper Feature Service.)

Answers to Health Questions

F. B. Washington—I have a severe case of moist eczema. What will help cure the eruption? Apply some of the following to the affected parts each night: Oil of sweet almond, 10 drops; salicylic acid, 1/2 dram; carbolic acid, fifteen drops; lanolin, half ounce; petrolatum, half ounce.

A. B. C.—My daughter has been suffering from what the physician calls acne. It comes with pimples and blackheads. What do you advise? Constipation, pallor, weakened blood, anemia, living in dark, dingy, hot, dirty rooms and digestion difficulties are the internal foundation stones for pimples and blackheads. The skin itself must be bathed frequently and thoroughly washed with a soft, neutral soap. Absorbent cotton and ice cold water tend to train the skin to resist such disorders. Apply one of the following prescriptions:

Sulphur precipitate..... 3/4 drams Potassium carbonate..... 1/2 drams Glycerine..... 2/3 drams Aquae laurocerasus..... 2/3 drams Brandy..... 2/3 drams Or— Calcium loti..... 6/4 drams Calcium sulphurate..... 6/4 drams Calcium phosphate..... 6/4 drams Fuller's earth..... 4 drams Glycerine..... 3 drams Vinegar..... 2 drams

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FRIDAY, 4:30. FIRST CONCERT TEN STAR SERIES. Mme. ALDA. Assisted by Francis Alda, Mr. Frank La Forge. Tickets, 25c, 50c, \$1. T. Arthur Smith, 1508 G.

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